maturation component; wherein said carrier is taken from the group consisting of polymer, ceramic, metallic and nonmetallic materials.

10. (Amended) Means according to claim 8, wherein the ceramic carrier materials are selected from the group consisting of hydroxylapatite, calciumphosphate, aluminum oxide, and ionomer cement.

11. (Amended) Means according to claim 8, wherein the metallic carrier material is titanium or titanium alloy.

12. (Amended) Means according to claim 8, wherein the nonmetallic carrier material is carbon.

13. (Amended) Means according to claim 8, wherein the polymer is derived from natural monomers taken from the group consisting of amino acids, glutomic acid, lactic acid, hydroacetic acid, and copolymers thereof.

14. (Amended) Means according to claim 8, wherein the polymer is a polylactate.

15. (Amended) Method of producing or stabilizing vertebral structures or of fixing endoprosthesis comprising the step of implanting a means according to claim 8 into living beings.

17. (Amended) Method according to claim 15, wherein the metallic carrier material is titanium or a titanium alloy.

18. (Amended) Method according to claim 15, wherein the nonmetallic carrier material is carbon.

19. (Amended) Method according to claim 15, wherein the ceramic carrier materials are selected from the group consisting of hydroxylapatite, calciumphosphate, aluminum oxide, and ionomer cement.

21. (Amended) Method of treating osteoporosis and pseudoarthrosis or of filling bone defects comprising the step of implanting a means according to claim 8 into living beings.

23. (Amended) Method according to claim 21, wherein the ceramic carrier materials are selected from the group consisting of hydroxylapatite, calciumphosphate, aluminum oxide, and ionomer cement.

24. (Amended) Method according to claim 21, wherein the metallic carrier material is titanium or a titanium alloy.

25. (Amended) Method according to claim 21, wherein the nometallic carrier material is carbon.

27. (Amended) Method according to claim 8, wherein the polymer is derived from natural monomers taken from the group consisting of amino acids, glutomic acid, lactic acid, hydroacetic acid, and copolymers thereof.

30. (Amended) Method according to claim 29, wherein the polymer is a polylactate.

31. (Amended) Means according to claim 8, wherein the carrier comprises a lattice structure for receiving the active ingredient complex therein.

32. (Amended) Method according to claim 15, wherein the carrier comprises a lattice structure for receiving the active ingredient complex therein.

33. (Amended) Method according to claim 21, wherein the carrier comprises a lattice structure for receiving the active ingredient complex therein.

Please add the following new claims 34-39.

--34. (New) Means according to claim 8, wherein the carrier is a collagen coated with the active ingredient complex.

35. (New) Method according to claim 15, wherein the carrier is a collagen coated with the active ingredient complex.

36. (New) Means according to claim 8, wherein said recruiting agent is a chemotactic agent.

37. (New) Method according to claim 15, wherein said recruiting agent is a chemotactic agent.

38. (New) Means according to claim 8, wherein said growth/maturation agent is a cytokine.

39. (New) Method according to claim 15, wherein said growth/maturation agent is a cytokine.--

REMARKS

This Amendment is intended to be fully responsive to the March 29, 2001 Office Action and to place the case in condition for allowance.

At the outset, it is pointed out that the Examiner has failed to: